

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing television functionality comprising:

tracking a plurality of viewing parameters corresponding to services that are provided to a user;

determining a user preference for ~~[[a]]~~ each of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters;

tracking the user preference by assigning a score to each of the plurality of ~~[[the]]~~ viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters;

determining ~~[[the]]~~ an overall user preference score for the plurality of tracked viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters based on a weighted linear combination of scores associated with each of the plurality of tracked ~~[[the]]~~ viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters for the user;

receiving user input requesting television functionality; and

providing ~~[[a]]~~ the user with a result that is responsive to the user input and to the overall user preference score.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, where the user preference is determined based on a duration that a service characterized by ~~[[a]]~~ one or more of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is presented to ~~[[a]]~~ the user.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, where the user preference is determined based on a frequency that a service characterized by ~~[[a]]~~ one or more of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is presented to ~~[[a]]~~ the user.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, where the user preference is determined

based on a duration and a frequency that a service characterized by ~~[[a]]~~ one or more of the plurality of viewing parameter parameters is presented to ~~[[a]]~~ the user.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, where the user preference is for a service.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, where the user preference conflicts with another user preference.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, where the user preference is defined by ~~[[a]]~~ the user.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, where the user preference is determined by tracking services that are provided by a digital home communication terminal.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, where the result is only provided if a preference-adaptive mode is activated.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, where the preference adaptive mode is activated via a switch located on a remote control device.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, where user preference is determined based on user input.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, where the user input indicates a preference for a viewing parameter.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, where the user input indicates a preference against one or more of the plurality of viewing parameter parameters.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, where the user input indicates a preference for a first viewing parameter and a preference against a second viewing parameter, said first and second viewing parameters comprise the plurality of viewing parameters.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, where a preference tracking database is used to keep track of the user preference.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, where the preference tracking database keeps track of user preferences for ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of types of viewing parameters.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

~~The method of claim 17, where the score for a plurality of viewing parameters may be based on a weighted linear combination of scores associated with the plurality of viewing parameter.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, where the overall user preference score for ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of tracked viewing parameter parameters changes over time.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, where the overall user preference score for ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of tracked viewing parameter parameters is revised using statistical analysis.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, where the overall user preference score for ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of tracked viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is determined using an artificial intelligence technology.

23. (Original) The method of claim 1, where data identifying the user preference is stored in non-volatile memory.

24. (Original) The method of claim 1, where data identifying the user preference is stored within a digital home communication terminal.

25. (Original) The method of claim 1, where data identifying the user preference is stored within a headend device.

26. (Canceled)

~~The method of claim 1, where the user preference corresponds to at least one viewing parameter.~~

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[26]]~~ 1, where one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is a television service.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[26]]~~ 1, where one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is a type of television service.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[26]]~~ 1, where one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is a television instance.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[26]] 29, where the television instance is a television program.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[26]] 1, where one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is a type of television instance.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[26]] 1, where a look-up table is used to determine the user preference for at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[26]] 1, where a look-up table is used to determine a user preference for [[a]] the plurality of viewing parameters.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33, where a number of viewing parameters represented in a first look-up table entry is independent from a number of viewing parameters represented in a second look-up table entry.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[26]] 1, where a plurality of look-up tables are used to determine a user preference for [[a]] the plurality of viewing parameters.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[26]] 1, where the television functionality comprises a presentation of an interactive program guide (IPG).

37. (Original) The method of claim 36, where the result is an IPG that does not provide information corresponding to a time slot that is not in accordance with the user preference.

38. (Original) The method of claim 36, where the result is an IPG that is configured in accordance with the user preference.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36, where the result is a presentation of an initial IPG screen that lists at least one television service that corresponds to at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 39, where the initial IPG screen lists a plurality of television services that correspond to at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 39, where the initial IPG screen does not list any television services that do not correspond to at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[26]] 1, where the television functionality comprises tuning to a television service.

43. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42, where the result comprises tuning to a television service that corresponds to at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[26]] 1, where the television functionality comprises tuning to a user identified television service.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 44, where the user identified television service corresponds to at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters.

46. (Original) The method of claim 45, where the result comprises not tuning to the user identified television service.

47. (Original) The method of claim 46, where the result comprises prompting a user to provide additional input.

48. (Original) The method of claim 47, where the additional input comprises a personal identification number (PIN).

49. (Currently Amended) A system for providing television functionality comprising:

logic for tracking a plurality of viewing parameters corresponding to services that are provided to a user;

logic for determining a user preference for ~~[[a]]~~ each of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters;

logic for tracking the user preference by assigning a score to each of the plurality of ~~[[the]]~~ viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters;

logic for determining ~~[[the]]~~ an overall user preference score for the plurality of tracked viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters based on a weighted linear combination of scores associated with each of the plurality of tracked ~~[[the]]~~ viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters for the user;

logic for receiving user input requesting television functionality; and

logic for providing ~~[[a]]~~ the user with a result that is responsive to the user input and to the overall user preference score.

50. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 49, where the user preference is determined based on a duration that a service characterized by ~~[[a]]~~ one or more of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is presented to ~~[[a]]~~ the user.

51. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 49, where the user preference is determined based on a frequency that a service characterized by ~~[[a]]~~ one or more of the plurality of viewing parameter parameters is presented to ~~[[a]]~~ the user.

52. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 49, where the user preference is determined based on a duration and a frequency that a service characterized by ~~[[a]]~~ one or more of the plurality of viewing parameter parameters is presented to ~~[[a]]~~ the user.

53. (Original) The system of claim 49, where the user preference varies over time.

54. (Original) The system of claim 49, where the user preference is for a service.

55. (Original) The system of claim 49, where the user preference conflicts with another user preference.

56. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 49, where the user preference is defined by ~~[[a]]~~ the user.

57. (Original) The system of claim 49, where the user preference is determined based on tracking services that are provided by a digital home communication terminal.

58. (Original) The system of claim 49, where the result is only provided if a preference-adaptive mode is activated.

59. (Original) The system of claim 58, where the preference adaptive mode is activated via a switch located on a remote control device.

60. (Original) The system of claim 49, where user preference is determined based on user input.

61. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 60, where the user input indicates a preference for ~~[[a]] one or more of the plurality of viewing parameter parameters.~~

62. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 60, where the user input indicates a preference against ~~[[a]] one or more of the plurality of viewing parameter parameters.~~

63. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 60, where the user input indicates a preference for a first viewing parameter and a preference against a second viewing parameter, said first and second viewing parameters comprise the plurality of viewing parameters.

64. (Original) The system of claim 49, where a preference tracking database is used to keep track of the user preference.

65. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 64, where the preference tracking database keeps track of user preferences for ~~[[a]] the plurality of [[types]] of viewing parameters.~~

66. (Canceled)

67. (Canceled)

68. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 49, where the overall user preference score for [[a]] the plurality of tracked viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is based on a weighted linear combination of scores associated with the plurality of viewing parameter.

69. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 49, where the overall user preference score for [[a]] the plurality of tracked viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters changes over time.

70. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 49, where the overall user preference score for [[a]] the plurality of tracked viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is revised using statistical analysis.

71. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 49, where the overall user preference score for [[a]] the plurality of tracked viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is determined using an artificial intelligence technology.

72. (Original) The system of claim 49, where data identifying the user preference is stored in non-volatile memory.

73. (Original) The system of claim 49, where data identifying the user preference is stored within a digital home communication terminal.

74. (Original) The system of claim 49, where data identifying the user preference is stored within a headend device.

75. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 49, where the user preference corresponds to at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters.

76. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 75, where at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is a television service.

77. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 75, where at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is a type of television service.

78. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 75, where at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is a television instance.

79. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[75]] 78, where the television instance is a television program.

80. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 75, where at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters is a type of television instance.

81. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 75, where a look-up table is used to determine the user preference for [[a]] at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters.

82. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 75, where a look-up table is used to determine a user preference for [[a]] the plurality of viewing parameters.

83. (Original) The system of claim 82, where a number of viewing parameters represented in a first look-up table entry is independent from a number of viewing parameters represented in a second look-up table entry.

84. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 75, where a plurality of look-up tables are used to determine a user preference for ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of viewing parameters.

85. (Original) The system of claim 75, where the television functionality comprises presenting an interactive program guide (IPG).

86. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 93, where the result comprises an IPG that does not provide information corresponding to a time slot that is not in accordance with the user preference.

87. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 93, where the result comprises an IPG that is configured in accordance with the user preference.

88. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 93, where the result comprises presenting an initial IPG screen that lists at least one television service that corresponds to at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters

89. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 94, where the initial IPG screen lists a plurality of television services that correspond to at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters.

90. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 94, where the initial IPG screen does not list any television services that do not correspond at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters.

91. (Original) The system of claim 75, where the television functionality comprises tuning to a television service.

92. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 91, where the result comprises tuning to a television service that corresponds to at least one of the plurality of viewing ~~parameter~~ parameters.

93. (Original) The system of claim 75, where the television functionality comprises tuning to a user identified television service.

94. (Original) The system of claim 93, where the user identified television service corresponds to the viewing parameter.

95. (Original) The system of claim 94, where the result comprises not tuning to the user identified television service.

96. (Original) The system of claim 95, where the result comprises prompting a user to provide additional input.

97. (Original) The system of claim 96, where the additional input comprises a personal identification number (PIN).

98-104. (Canceled)

105. (Withdrawn) A method for providing television functionality comprising:
tracking a viewing parameter corresponding to services that are provided to a

user;

determining a user preference for the viewing parameter based on a time of day, a day of a week, and a month of a year;

recording the user preference in multiple data structures corresponding respectively to the viewing parameter for the time of the day, the day of the week, and the month of the year;

receiving user input requesting a presentation of an interactive program guide (IPG); and

populating the IPG with program information associated with the user preference based on the multiple data structures.

106. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 105, further comprising determining a user preference for multiple viewing parameters based on the time of the day, the day of the week, and the month of the year.

107. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 106, further comprising recording the user preference for the multiple viewing parameters in the multiple data structures.

108. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 107, further comprising populating the IPG with program information associated with the user preference for the multiple viewing parameters from the multiple data structures.

109. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 105, wherein recording comprises recording a score corresponding to duration of viewing the viewing parameter, frequency of viewing the viewing parameter, or a combination of duration and frequency.

110. (Withdrawn) A method for providing television functionality comprising:

tracking a viewing parameter corresponding to services that are provided to a user;

determining a user preference for the viewing parameter based on a time of day, a day of a week, and a month of a year;

recording the user preference in a data structure comprising separate entries for the time of the day, the day of the week, and the month of the year;

receiving user input requesting a presentation of an interactive program guide (IPG); and
populating the IPG with program information associated with the user preference based on
the separate entries.

111. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 110, further comprising determining a user
preference for multiple viewing parameters based on the time of the day, the day of the week,
and the month of the year, recording the user preference for the multiple viewing parameters in the
separate entries, and populating the IPG with program information associated with the user
preference for the multiple viewing parameters from the separate entries.